Post 7-17-75

Senate Probers May Get Access to FBI Data

The Senate Intelligence committee and the Justice Department have agreed to "experiment with procedure" giving the committee access to FBI documents, committee Chairman Frank Church (D-Idaho) said yesterday.

Church, declining to give details, told reporters after a two-hour meeting with Attorney General Edward H. Levi and FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley that the committee and department staffs will try the procedure "to determine if it will work." If it does not, Church said, the committee will consult with Levi again.

The committee also has decided to stay on past the start of the August recess if necessary to complete its investigation into alleged Central Intelligence Agency involvement in assassination plots, Church said.

"I don't think it's good for the country to have this issue hanging, week in and week out," Church said.

Saying that he believed the FBI wants to cooperate with the committee, Church refrained from criticizing either the department or the FBI for not immediately giving the committee everything it requested.

"It would be very easy to conduct this investigation as some would like it conducted, by behaving like a bomb thrower and condemning the Department of Justice and the Attorney General whenever we have a problem to resolve," Church said. "I don't think that's the proper wa
duct an investigatio
thermore, I think
only impede the p
the committee."